

ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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UNITED STATES.

SPECIAL REPORTS.

Influenza and allied diseases.

NOTICE.—Health officers are particularly requested to send full statements of the reigning epidemic. A collective statement of its symptomatology, with dates of first and last cases, will be made at the close. There is much controversy in regard to the diagnosis, which might be definitively settled by full reports from all observers.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Week ended February 1. There were 18 deaths from influenza.

Week ended February 8. Eleven deaths from influenza.

CHICAGO, ILL.—Week ended February 8. Acute lung diseases prevailed, causing 138 deaths. Influenza, 16 deaths.

The registrar of vital statistics reports, under date of February 10, 1890, that there were 81 deaths from influenza in that city during the period from December 21, 1889, to February 8, 1890, inclusive. There were many deaths from phthisis pulmonalis, pneumonia, bronchitis, and other diseases complicated with influenza. "We have no means of ascertaining the number of cases of influenza, and no official action of this Department to prevent it, except in the way of advice as to general care of health when attacked by the disease."

PHILADELPHIA, PA.—Week ended February 1. Phthisis pulmonalis caused 73 deaths; inflammation of bronchi, 17; inflammation of lungs, 82; and influenza, 17.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Week ended February 8. Phthisis pulmonalis caused 48 deaths; pneumonia, 47; and bronchitis, 32.

BALTIMORE, MD.—Week ended February 8. Phthisis pulmonalis caused 32 deaths; inflammation of bronchi, 4; and influenza, 1.

CINCINNATI, OHIO.—Week ended February 8. Phthisis pulmonalis caused 16 deaths; bronchitis, 9; and pneumonia, 15.

CLEVELAND, OHIO.—Week ended January 4. Phthisis pulmonalis caused 10 deaths; pneumonia and congestion of the lungs, 16; and acute bronchitis, 6.

KANSAS CITY, MO.—Week ended February 1. Diseases of the lungs prevail, especially pneumonia.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—Week ended February 7. Influenza caused 4 deaths.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Week ended February 8. Influenza caused 2 deaths; pneumonia, 5; bronchitis, 1; influenza with pneumonia, 3; and influenza with other complications, 1.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—Week ended February 8. Pneumonia caused 6 deaths. The registrar says "it seems the force of influenza is spent."

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Week ended February 8. Diseases of the respiratory organs constitute nine-tenths of the prevailing sickness.

CANTON, OHIO.—Week ended February 7. The increased number of deaths is due to climatic influence on chronic lung and heart cases.

Report upon influenza by Passed Assistant Surgeon S. T. Armstrong.

UNITED STATES MARINE HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Cleveland, Ohio, February 6, 1890.

SIR: In accordance with the request in the "Abstract of Sanitary Reports" for January 31, I have the honor to forward herewith a report of the cases of influenza treated in this office during January.

Of one hundred out-patients treated, sixteen or 16 per cent. were cases of influenza. Of twenty-five patients admitted to the hospital, nine or 36 per cent. were cases of influenza. The first case treated was an out-patient on January 2. He had the general myalgia and faucial irritability. Possibly this case gave me the disease, for on January 3, just after completing my visit to the hospital wards, I had a distressing sensation of gastric oppression unassociated with nausea; the malaise that followed resulted in chilliness and fever in the evening, with the subsequent symptoms of the influenza.

On the 3d the first case was admitted to the hospital, and on the 4th the majority of the cases under treatment were affected by the disease.

In none of the cases that fell under my observation was there catarrhal symptoms. The disease usually commenced with malaise, followed by myalgia, anorexia, and bronchial irritability. In no case was the temperature above 39° C., and this usually existed for two days only; there was defervescence in the morning of from two to six tenths of a degree centigrade. The pulse was rarely increased above one hundred pulsations per minute.

Following the acute symptoms, there was usually anorexia for from two to ten days, and a bronchial irritability that caused more alarm to the patient than any physical symptom present would give reason for existing. In no case was there any subsequent severe pulmonary trouble.

The most severe cases were those of a patient that had just developed constitutional syphilis, and one just recovering from gonorrhoeal orchitis; in the latter case there was great faucial irritability without any apparent lesion; this was the second case presenting such symptoms in a total of fifty-five cases.

In treatment various methods were tried; those given quinine did not seem to improve any faster than those that were simply treated with

tincture of iron. Acetanilid was most useful in relieving the cephalalgia and myalgia; antipyrine was not used because it is so much more expensive than acetanilid and no more efficacious. It is rather doubtful whether the anorexia was benefited by a course of iron, though the usual pallor would seem to indicate its administration. Simple expectorant mixtures were employed to relieve the bronchial catarrh.

Since the 1st of February no new case of the disease has presented itself.

Meteorologically, the mean barometer was about the same this year during the first three weeks of January as during the same period last year. The mean thermometer was about two degrees higher than last year, and the mean humidity was somewhat lower.

The general mortality of this city was, to the 25th of January, almost 90 per cent. more than for the same period last year, and the mortality from pulmonary troubles was almost 280 per cent. greater than during the same period last year.

SMALL-POX.

U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Evansville, Ind., February 6, 1890.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose a clipping from the *Evansville Courier* in regard to an outbreak of small-pox at Anna, Ill.

No cases have developed here from the one reported in my letter of the 25th ultimo.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE T. VAUGHAN,
Assistant Surgeon, M.-H. S.

Reports of States, and Yearly and Monthly Reports of Cities.

CALIFORNIA—*Los Angeles*.—Month of January, 1890. Population, 80,000. Total deaths, 100, including enteric fever, 1; diphtheria, 6; and croup, 1.

Bronchitis caused 4 deaths; pneumonia, 18; and phthisis pulmonalis, 33.

COLORADO—*Denver*.—Month of January, 1890. Population, 150,000. Total deaths, 296, including croup, 5; diphtheria, 10; enteric fever, 3; and whooping-cough, 3.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 68 deaths; bronchitis, 8; and pneumonia, 75.

DELAWARE—*Wilmington*.—Month of January, 1890. Population, 60,000. Total deaths, 158, including croup, 5; measles, 2; scarlet fever, 3; and enteric fever, 7.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 23 deaths; pneumonia, 24; bronchitis, 4; and influenza, 5.

IOWA—*Keokuk*.—Month of January, 1890. Population 16,000. Total deaths, 23, including croup, 2; and enteric fever, 1.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 4 deaths; pneumonia, 2; influenza, 1; and influenza with pneumonia and heart disease, 1.

MASSACHUSETTS—*Newton*.—Month of December, 1889. Population, 21,553. Total deaths, 23, including croup, 1; and diphtheria, 3.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 3 deaths and pneumonia 1.

MICHIGAN.—Month of January, 1890. Reports to the State board of health, Lansing, indicate that, compared with the preceding month, influenza, pneumonia, pleuritis, and membranous croup increased, and typho-malarial fever, inflammation of brain, cholera morbus, enteric fever, dysentery, inflammation of kidney, inflammation of bowels, whooping-cough, diphtheria, and small-pox decreased in prevalence.

Compared with the average for the month of January in the four years 1886–1889, influenza, pneumonia, and measles were more prevalent, and typho-malarial fever, cholera morbus, cholera infantum, dysentery, inflammation of brain, membranous croup, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, cerebro-spinal meningitis, diphtheria, and remittent fever were less prevalent in January, 1890.

Including reports by regular observers and others, diphtheria was reported present in Michigan in the month of January, 1890, at 61 places, scarlet fever at 62 places, typhoid fever at 48 places, and measles at 27 places.

Reports from all sources show diphtheria reported at 4 places more, scarlet fever at 2 places less, typhoid fever at 9 places less, and measles at 5 places more in the month of January, 1890, than in the preceding month.

During the week ended February 1, 1890, reports from 57 observers indicated that dysentery, inflammation of brain, cholera morbus, typho-malarial fever, cholera infantum, diphtheria, whooping-cough, remittent fever, and measles increased, and that membranous croup, puerperal fever, and pleuritis decreased in area of prevalence.

Compared with the average for the month of January in the four years 1886–1889, influenza, pneumonia, and measles were more prevalent, and typho-malarial fever, cholera morbus, cholera infantum, dysentery, inflammation of brain, membranous croup, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, cerebro-spinal meningitis, diphtheria, and remittent fever were less prevalent in January, 1890.

Diphtheria was reported during the week and since at 19 places, scarlet fever at 16 places, enteric fever at 10 places, and measles at 12 places.

The secretary of the State board of health says:

“*La grippe*” is reported by a few observers, and, apparently, some call certain types of cases of the prevailing epidemic “intermittent

fever;" but, even though its causation and symptoms are somewhat like those of intermittent fever, "influenza" is undoubtedly the best name for the disease, and it is so reported on 98 per cent. of all the weekly reports by Michigan physicians received at the office of the State board of health for the week ending February 1, the most sickness being caused by influenza, pneumonia, bronchitis, and rheumatism.

Coldwater.—Report of cases of sickness during the period from December 27, 1889, to February 1, 1890:

Week ended January 4, 1890. Bronchitis, 38; consumption, 7; typhoid fever, 1; pleuritis, 3; pneumonia, 4; tonsilitis, 15; la grippe, 10.

Week ended January 11, 1890. Bronchitis, 50; influenza, 20; tonsilitis, 19; consumption, 8; whooping-cough, 1; la grippe, 70.

Week ended January 18, 1890. Bronchitis, 67; influenza, 31; consumption, 8; neuralgia, 11; rheumatism, 12; tonsilitis, 20; la grippe, 125.

Week ended January 25, 1890. Bronchitis, 78; influenza, 39; tonsilitis, 20; la grippe, 350; whooping-cough, 3.

Week ended February 1, 1890. Bronchitis, 82; influenza, 44; tonsilitis, 24; neuralgia, 20; kidney inflammation, 7; consumption, 10; pneumonia, 10; pleuritis, 9; whooping-cough, 3; la grippe, 428.

There have been only five deaths directly attributable to la grippe.

Grand Rapids.—Month of January, 1890. Population, 70,000. Total deaths, 89; including diphtheria, 12; diphtheric croup, 2; enteric fever, 1; and scarlet fever, 2.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 11 deaths; bronchitis, 2; influenza, 1; pleurisy, 1; and pneumonia, 16.

NEW JERSEY—*Hudson County.*—Month of December, 1889. Population, 282,254. Total deaths, 595, including measles, 1; scarlet fever, 3; diphtheria, 44; whooping-cough, 6; and enteric fever, 32.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 62 deaths; bronchitis, 32; and pneumonia, 106.

NEW YORK.—Month of December, 1889. Reports to the State board of health from 8 districts, including New York and Brooklyn and 129 other cities and towns, show a total of 8,483 deaths, including enteric fever, 117; scarlet fever, 73; measles, 33; whooping-cough, 84; and diphtheria and croup, 546.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 1,131 deaths and acute diseases of the respiratory organs 1,631.

The *Monthly Bulletin* says:

The total reported mortality for December is about 1,000 in excess of that of November, but is not much higher than that of December, 1888. In 130 cities, villages, and large towns having an aggregate population of 4,018,000 there were 7,160 deaths, representing an annual death rate per 1,000 of 21.38. In the rate of infant mortality there is little variation from last month. The proportion of deaths from

zymotic diseases is less than it was in November, but this is due to the preponderance of deaths from other causes, as the actual zymotic mortality varies very little from that of last month. From respiratory diseases there is an increased mortality over last month and over December, 1888. This is probably due in part to the appearance generally throughout the State at the commencement of the last week of the month of epidemic influenza, from which cause directly a few deaths are returned. The number of deaths is increased for nervous diseases. Consumption causes an unusual proportion of deaths, 133.33 per 1,000 total mortality.

Rochester.—Month of January, 1890. Population, 130,000. Total deaths, 474, including croup, 5; diphtheria, 2; enteric fever, 3; and measles, 1.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 33 deaths and influenza 7.

OHIO—*Dayton.*—Month of January, 1890. Population, 60,000. Total deaths, 108, including croup, 1; diphtheria, 6; and measles, 3.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 15 deaths; bronchitis, 3; and pneumonia, 22.

RHODE ISLAND—*Newport.*—Month of January, 1890. Population, 22,200. Total deaths, 32, including phthisis pulmonalis, 3; pneumonia, 3; acute and chronic bronchitis, 4; and influenza, 7.

TENNESSEE—*Chattanooga.*—Month of January, 1890. Population 40,000. Total deaths, 65, including croup, 1; measles, 1; and whooping-cough, 1.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 9 deaths; bronchitis, 5; pneumonia, 13; and influenza, 1.

TEXAS—*San Antonio.*—Month of January, 1890. Population, 50,000. Total deaths, 110, including croup, 1; enteric fever, 1; and variola, 1.

Phthisis pulmonalis caused 61 deaths; bronchitis, 4; pneumonia, 9; and influenza, 1.

VIRGINIA—*Lynchburg.*—Month of January, 1890. Population, 25,000. Total deaths, none. One case of enteric fever, 2 of measles and 2 of whooping-cough were reported.

FOREIGN.

(Reports received through the Department of State and other channels.)

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales.*—The deaths registered in 28 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended January 25 corresponded to an annual rate of 24.2 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,555,406. The lowest rate was recorded in Derby, viz, 15.0, and the highest in Preston, viz, 27.8 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 4 deaths in Salford, 4 in Manchester, 3 in Sheffield, 2 in Birmingham, and 2 in Newcastle-on-Tyne.

London.—Two thousand two hundred and twenty-seven deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 21; scarlet fever, 10; diphtheria, 22; whooping-cough, 82; enteric fever, 10; typhus, 1; and diarrhoea and dysentery, 14. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 26.3 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 736 deaths, and exceeded the corrected average by 167. In greater London 2,782 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 25.2 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included measles, 4; diphtheria, 10; whooping-cough, 17; scarlet fever, 4.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate, represented by the deaths registered during the week ended January 25, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 39.6 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Drogheda, viz, 4.02, and the highest in Dublin, viz, 48.1 a thousand. In Dublin and suburbs 330 deaths were registered, including measles, 5; diphtheria, 2; enteric fever, 8; whooping-cough, 10; and influenza, 8.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in eight principal towns during the week ended January 25 corresponded to an annual rate of 26.4 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,314,274. The lowest mortality was recorded in Paisley, viz, 16.4, and the highest in Dundee, viz, 33.5 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 683, including measles, 36; scarlet fever, 7; diphtheria, 8; whooping-cough, 21; fever, 6; and diarrhoea, 12.

Glasgow.—During the week ended January 25, 1890, bronchitis, pneumonia, and pleurisy caused 56 deaths.

Gibraltar.—January 16, 1890. Pulmonary diseases prevail. Cases of influenza are daily occurring here. Over 100 men of the troops in garrison are down with it. Many cases are also reported among the civil population.

January 21. Up to this morning at 10 o'clock the cases of influenza among the troops have reached 213, and the cases have increased among the civil population, but are mostly of a mild character.

FRANCE—*Paris*.—During the week ended January 18, 1890, there were 1,493 deaths registered, including 282 from consumption, 187 from pneumonia, and 240 from other pulmonary diseases.

During the week ended January 25 there were 1,147 deaths registered, including 257 from consumption, 92 from pneumonia, and 150 from other pulmonary diseases.

SPAIN—*Cadiz*.—The United States consul states, under date of January 25, that a recent report on the sanitary condition of Cadiz shows that in 1888 three hundred and forty-three out of every one thousand deaths were caused by contagious diseases. Dengue still prevailed in mild form.

NETHERLANDS—*Amsterdam*.—January 18, 1890. There have been 1,274 officially reported cases of influenza, and 5 deaths from that disease, during the week ended January 11.

During the week ended January 18 there were 623 cases reported, and 3 deaths from influenza.

BRAZIL—*Rio de Janeiro*.—Week ended January 11, 1890. Population, 450,000. Total number of deaths registered, 260, including yellow fever, 5; small-pox, 19; enteric fever, 4; and typhus fever, 12. Pulmonary diseases prevailed. The sanitary condition of the city was good.

Ceara.—Month of December, 1889. Population, 33,000. Total deaths, 120. No contagious diseases reported.

Maceio.—Month of December, 1889. Population, 17,000. Total deaths, 44. None from contagious diseases.

BRITISH GUIANA—*Georgetown, Demerara*.—January 18, 1890. Population, 54,000. Health of city as usual, but with increased prevalence of colds, catarrhs, etc. No contagious diseases.

CUBA—*Havana*.—Week ended January 31, 1890. Four deaths from yellow fever were reported.

During the month of January there were 481 deaths, including yellow fever, 11; enteric fever, 11; so-called pernicious fever, 8; diphtheria and croup, 11; and measles, 1. Two of the deaths from yellow fever occurred in the military hospital. The remaining nine were among civilians in unsanitary parts of the city.

BAHAMAS—*Nassau, N. P.*—January 25, 1890. Many cases of influenza, all so far in very mild form. First appeared early in the week, and is extending slowly. No deaths from it as yet. Weather dry and pleasant.

INFLUENZA IN SOUTH AMERICA.

[Translated for this Bureau from *Der Deutsche Correspondent*, Baltimore, Md., February 3, 1890.]

LONDON, ENGLAND, *February 2*.—It is reported from Montevideo that the influenza has assumed an alarming character, and has become epidemic, no less than 4,000 persons having been affected in the last fifteen days.

INFLUENZA IN ROME.

The United States consul-general, in his dispatch dated January 20, 1890, says:

I have the honor to report that the epidemic influenza is reported to have reached Rome in the middle of last month, 1,600 cases having been reported on the 15th, and 2,000 on the 16th. It is what is known as grippe, and not the dengue. The symptoms are as follows:

Eyes congested; nasal passages constricted, accompanied by headache and pains in the limbs. The temperature is increased, reaching 103° Fahrenheit and at times as high as 105°. The disease reaches its maximum intensity inside of three days, when the symptoms gradually ameliorate until convalescence, generally in less than ten days, unless the patient has been debilitated or suffering from other affections of the air passages.

One physician here treats his patients by spraying the air passages with a solution of 2 per cent. of cocaine in water, and giving internally a dilute solution of citrate of ammonia, a tablespoonful every two hours. The patient is put in bed as soon as possible, and a gentle perspiration induced.

Precautionary measures are of no avail. The influenza still prevails extensively not only at Rome, but throughout Italy. Its form, however, judging from the reports of its severity in other countries, is somewhat mild. I should not feel especially called upon to report in the matter, were it not that the newspapers of this city, and dispatches sent from here, not only ignore the existence of this disease, but in most cases deny it. The same newspapers, however, publish regular telegraphic reports concerning its prevalence and ravages in other cities of Italy. It must be that interested motives color the action of the press, as Rome depends so largely on the patronage of foreigners for the support of its hotels and shops.

The effect of the influenza on the health of Rome can not be determined from any published official reports, as the last one was for the week ending November 9, 1889, and is just published—that is, nearly two and one-third months after the week to which it refers.

INFLUENZA AT ROUEN, FRANCE.

The United States consul, under date of January 15, 1890, furnishes the following:

Twenty-two deaths were recorded yesterday at the registrar's office of this city. There were thirty-three for the two preceding days, Sunday and Monday, January 12 and 13 (deaths not being recorded on

Sunday). This is a slight increase in the mortality. The following comparative table shows the number of deaths, day by day, since the commencement of January compared with those of the same date of the five preceding years.

	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
January 1.....	13	13	8	18	10	17
2.....	10	13	6	14	12	15
3.....	11	8	7	14	11	13
4.....	9	12	17	11	9	12
5.....	11	7	9	8	10	16
6.....	9	17	14	11	3	17
7.....	16	12	12	9	8	18
8.....	16	17	14	4	17	36
9.....	12	6	8	12	6	33
10.....	14	11	15	11	9	25
11.....	10	15	7	11	8	30
12.....	12	11	8	8	16	20
13.....	8	13	10	10	11	16
14.....	11	14	13	14	18	22
	162	169	148	155	148	296

The prefect made an official visit to the two hospitals of Rouen yesterday, commencing with the military portion of the Hospital "Hotel Dieu." Influenza was naturally the topic of conversation and the real cause of his visit at this time. The physicians in attendance upon the military department of the Hospital "Hotel Dieu" stated that the disease was on the decrease. Having had 140 soldiers, with an average of about 80, they were obliged to put some of them into one of the civil sections, but to-day the disease was such that only 120 beds were occupied. As elsewhere, the disease has taken various forms; notably a few cases of otite have been observed, this disease of the ear leaving no permanent malady if properly attended to. It has been remarked that influenza has been mild among the troops.

The same features of this disease were observable on entering the other sections of the hospital.

The epidemic was apparently on the decrease, having reached its height on the two last days of the year 1889 and the two first days of January, 1890.

The decrease in the applications for admission to the Hospital "Hotel Dieu" has been observable since Saturday last, as well as at the various dispensaries which afford advice and remedies to applicants. There was a time when not only the aisles were taken up with cots, but the isolated apartments reserved for the patients having contagious diseases were all occupied. The apartments reserved for women were occupied by men, as so many of the former were attacked by the epidemic. Attention has been paid to the purification of the air in the more crowded sections. The vapor of eucalyptus is diffused through the apartments by means of basins placed on the stoves and heaters.

The sanitary improvement of the Pontin marshes is due to the groves of eucalyptus which have been extensively planted upon them. No other hospital has availed itself of the useful properties of this plant. The attendants have been stricken in such numbers that it was found necessary to devote an entire ward to their use.

The other principal hospital, termed "Hospice-General," bore evidence likewise of the decrease of the disease. It is hoped that this is

not a mere lull, but a permanent decrease of the disease. In this establishment, as in the other, a whole ward is devoted to the employés stricken with the prevailing disease. The washwomen were almost invariably suffering from it, and that department was supplied almost entirely by outsiders. This hospital contained about 1,700 and the Hotel Dieu 550 patients afflicted with various diseases. The same overcrowding was visible at the Hospice-General as at the Hotel Dieu. The children's ward was supplied with extra beds. Infants in arms were there in great numbers. They were not generally ill with the influenza, but their mothers were, and having no other place to put them they brought them there. There is a nursery attached to the asylum. The little cradles and beds with their white curtains, stretched along the walls, containing the little babies, who slept when not crying, not knowing whether a hospital sister or their mother approached them and administered to their wants.

It was a trying ordeal to pass through the long lines of the sick, coughing as if they would burst a blood-vessel, and to listen to the plaintive cries of the children.

THE EPIDEMIC OF GRIPPE IN EUROPE.

[Translated for this Bureau from the *Journal d'Hygiene*, Paris, January 16, 1889.]

Grippe in Paris.—The epidemic began early in December, and culminated in the past week. Like all preceding epidemics, it passed through two successive periods. During the first period of fifteen days grippe held the field alone, generalizing with its usual rapidity, but causing no mortality. This is the so-called benign phase.

In the second phase pneumonia made its appearance, complicating the grippe and increasing the death rate. This is the phase of complication. We are at present fully in this phase, but there are indications that we are on the eve of the phase of abatement.

Grippe in London.—In England the influenza does not seem as yet to have made many victims. The first cases appeared in the western section of London.

Grippe in Russia.—In a report read to the society of Russian physicians of St. Petersburg, M. Katycheff insisted strongly on the "importance and generalization of neuralgic pain in the present epidemic of grippe."

Influenza at Warsaw and throughout Poland.—In most cases the disease, which is frankly epidemic in character, lasts a day and a half, generally terminating with profuse perspiration. Very frequently nausea has been noticed in the first stages, with obstinate vomiting, lasting during the entire course of the disease. In many cases tracheo-bronchitis appeared on the second or third day, persisting even after the disappearance of the disease.

Grippe at Vienna.—At the meeting of the Imperial and Royal Society of Medicine of Vienna, January 2, Professor Nothnadel laid down this proposition: Influenza is a bacillary disease, though proof of this is lacking, and the micro-organism has not been recognized. It must be admitted that influenza originates with a special bacteria, which is the poison of the disease.

Grippe in Italy.—The epidemic made its first appearance at Verona in an infantry regiment. Professor Pagliani was sent by the government to investigate the facts. After a careful examination the director

of public health at Rome adopted the conclusions expressed in M. Proust's Paris reports: "The disease is evidently of easy diffusion, but presents no grave characteristics."

"LA GRIPPE" AMONG THE CANADIAN INDIANS.

[Translated for this Bureau from *Der Deutsche Correspondent*, Baltimore, Md., February 4, 1890.]

OTTAWA, ONT., *February 3.*—Reports received at the Indian Bureau show that "la grippe" has appeared on the reservations of the Northwest, and has filled the Indians with great terror. The disease is causing great destruction near the Sarcey River, south of Calgath.

CONTAMINATION OF WATER BY LEAD AND THE MEANS OF ITS PREVENTION.

[Translated for this Bureau from the *Journal d'Hygiene*, Paris, January 16, 1890.]

From clinical observations of lead poisoning it appears that chemical analysis indicates not one single cause of the tendency of water to dissolve lead, but many causes operating in one direction. According to some, rain water has this effect, while others show it to be due to oxygen, and others again to the absence of carbonic acid. In water containing at least three per cent. of CO₂ the dissolution of lead is arrested. There are evidences that water rich in oxygen held in solution and very nearly deficient in carbonic acid does not dissolve lead. It has been observed in England that water containing phosphate of lime does not attack lead. Finally, experience has demonstrated that lead pipes may be used as conduits with impunity, provided the flow of water is not interrupted.

MORTALITY TABLE—FOREIGN CITIES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—								
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping-cough.
London.....	Jan. 18.	5,758,500	3,330					14	25	25	39
London.....	Jan. 25.	5,758,500	2,782				1	10	14	32	25
Paris.....	Jan. 18.	2,260,945	1,493					12	3	20	10	16
Paris.....	Jan. 25.	2,260,945	1,147			5		17	5	31	16	10
Glasgow.....	Jan. 25.	545,678	260					5	1	2	19	7
Warsaw.....	Jan. 11.	445,770	245			12			2	12		
Warsaw.....	Jan. 18.	445,770	208			18			1	1		
Amsterdam.....	Jan. 11.	406,617	362					2		5		
Amsterdam.....	Jan. 18.	406,617	477					2		9		
Copenhagen.....	Jan. 11.	307,000	169					4		9		
Copenhagen.....	Jan. 18.	307,000	124						3	1	9	
Palermo.....	Jan. 18.	250,000	124						4			
Palermo.....	Jan. 25.	250,000	141						1	1		
Bristol.....	Jan. 18.	232,248	115					2	3	1		
Bristol.....	Jan. 25.	232,248	121							1		
Belfast.....	Jan. 18.	232,222	193				1	5		1		
Belfast.....	Jan. 25.	232,222	202				1	3		3		
Rotterdam.....	Jan. 11.	203,486	171					1				
Rotterdam.....	Jan. 18.	203,486	198					2				
Genoa.....	Jan. 18.	180,295	177				2			2		
Genoa.....	Jan. 25.	180,295	152				2			1		
Trieste.....	Jan. 18.	158,054	158						1	4		
Stuttgart.....	Jan. 25.	125,510	78							4		
Pernambuco.....	Jan. 7.	120,000	69									
Pernambuco.....	Jan. 14.	120,000	33			1						
Havre.....	Jan. 18.	112,074	111					1		1		
Catania.....	Jan. 20.	109,000	111						1	2		
Leghorn.....	Jan. 19.	103,659	60									
Mayence.....	Jan. 18.	65,802	64				1			2		
Cadiz.....	Jan. 18.	57,157	69									
Cadiz.....	Jan. 25.	57,157	73									
Vera Cruz.....	Jan. 2.	23,800	25									
Vera Cruz.....	Jan. 9.	23,800	31									
Vera Cruz.....	Jan. 16.	23,800	16									
Vera Cruz.....	Jan. 23.	23,800	21									
Vera Cruz.....	Jan. 30.	23,800	28									
Gibraltar.....	Jan. 12.	23,681	8								1	
Gibraltar.....	Jan. 18.	23,681	18								1	
Kingston, Can.....	Jan. 31.	15,284	27									
Sagua la Grande.....	Jan. 25.	15,605	9									
Sagua la Grande.....	Feb. 1.	15,605	9									

JOHN B. HAMILTON,

Supervising Surgeon-General, Marine-Hospital Service.